

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Fifty-fourth Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2020

**CHAPTER 25**  
**HOUSE BILL 2625**

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 1, CHAPTER 3, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY  
ADDING SECTION 1-319; AMENDING SECTION 15-203, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES;  
AMENDING TITLE 15, CHAPTER 7, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY  
ADDING SECTION 15-710.01; RELATING TO CIVICS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Title 1, chapter 3, article 1, Arizona Revised Statutes,  
3 is amended by adding section 1-319, to read:

4 1-319. Sandra Day O'Connor civics celebration day:  
5 observation

6 A. SEPTEMBER 25, IN EACH YEAR, SHALL BE OBSERVED AS SANDRA DAY  
7 O'CONNOR CIVICS CELEBRATION DAY.

8 B. SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR CIVICS CELEBRATION DAY IS NOT A LEGAL  
9 HOLIDAY.

10 C. IF SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR CIVICS CELEBRATION DAY FALLS ON A  
11 SATURDAY, SUNDAY OR OTHER DAY WHEN A PUBLIC SCHOOL IS NOT IN SESSION, THE  
12 PRECEDING OR FOLLOWING SCHOOL DAY SHALL BE OBSERVED IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL  
13 AS THE HOLIDAY.

14 Sec. 2. Section 15-203, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
15 read:

16 15-203. Powers and duties

17 A. The state board of education shall:

18 1. Exercise general supervision over and regulate the conduct of  
19 the public school system and adopt any rules and policies it deems  
20 necessary to accomplish this purpose.

21 2. Keep a record of its proceedings.

22 3. Make rules for its own government.

23 4. Determine the policy and work undertaken by it.

24 5. Subject to title 41, chapter 4, article 4, employ staff.

25 6. Prescribe and supervise the duties of its employees pursuant to  
26 title 41, chapter 4, article 4, if not otherwise prescribed by statute.

27 7. Delegate to the superintendent of public instruction the  
28 execution of board policies and rules.

29 8. Recommend to the legislature changes or additions to the  
30 statutes pertaining to schools.

31 9. Prepare, publish and distribute reports concerning the  
32 educational welfare of this state.

33 10. Prepare a budget for expenditures necessary for proper  
34 maintenance of the board and accomplishment of its purposes and present  
35 the budget to the legislature.

36 11. Aid in the enforcement of laws relating to schools.

37 12. Prescribe a minimum course of study in the common schools,  
38 minimum competency requirements for the promotion of pupils from the third  
39 grade and minimum course of study and competency requirements for the  
40 promotion of pupils from the eighth grade. The state board of education  
41 shall prepare a fiscal impact statement of any proposed changes to the  
42 minimum course of study or competency requirements and, on completion,  
43 shall send a copy to the director of the joint legislative budget  
44 committee and the executive director of the school facilities board. The  
45 state board of education shall not adopt any changes in the minimum course

1 of study or competency requirements in effect on July 1, 1998 that will  
2 have a fiscal impact on school capital costs.

3 13. Prescribe minimum course of study and competency requirements  
4 for the graduation of pupils from high school. The state board of  
5 education shall prepare a fiscal impact statement of any proposed changes  
6 to the minimum course of study or competency requirements and, on  
7 completion, shall send a copy to the director of the joint legislative  
8 budget committee and the executive director of the school facilities  
9 board. The state board of education shall not adopt any changes in the  
10 minimum course of study or competency requirements in effect on July 1,  
11 1998 that will have a fiscal impact on school capital costs.

12 14. Pursuant to section 15-501.01, supervise and control the  
13 certification of persons engaged in instructional work directly as any  
14 classroom, laboratory or other teacher or indirectly as a supervisory  
15 teacher, speech therapist, principal or superintendent in a school  
16 district, including school district preschool programs, or any other  
17 educational institution below the community college, college or university  
18 level, and prescribe rules for certification.

19 15. Adopt a list of approved tests for determining special  
20 education assistance to gifted pupils as defined in and as provided in  
21 chapter 7, article 4.1 of this title. The adopted tests shall provide  
22 separate scores for quantitative reasoning, verbal reasoning and nonverbal  
23 reasoning and shall be capable of providing reliable and valid scores at  
24 the highest ranges of the score distribution.

25 16. Adopt rules governing the methods for the administration of all  
26 proficiency examinations.

27 17. Adopt proficiency examinations for its use and determine the  
28 passing score for the proficiency examinations.

29 18. Include within its budget the cost of contracting for the  
30 purchase, distribution and scoring of the examinations as provided in  
31 paragraphs 16 and 17 of this subsection.

32 19. Supervise and control the qualifications of professional  
33 nonteaching school personnel and prescribe standards relating to  
34 qualifications. The standards shall not require the business manager of a  
35 school district to obtain certification from the state board of education.

36 20. Impose such disciplinary action, including the issuance of a  
37 letter of censure, suspension, suspension with conditions or revocation of  
38 a certificate, on a finding of immoral or unprofessional conduct.

39 21. Establish an assessment, data gathering and reporting system  
40 for pupil performance as prescribed in chapter 7, article 3 of this title,  
41 including qualifying examinations for the college credit by examination  
42 incentive program pursuant to section 15-249.06.

43 22. Adopt a rule to promote braille literacy pursuant to section  
44 15-214.

1           23. Adopt rules prescribing procedures for the investigation by the  
2 department of education of every written complaint alleging that a  
3 certificated person has engaged in immoral conduct.

4           24. For purposes of federal law, serve as the state board for  
5 vocational and technological education and meet at least four times each  
6 year solely to execute the powers and duties of the state board for  
7 vocational and technological education.

8           25. Develop and maintain a handbook for use in the schools of this  
9 state that provides guidance for the teaching of moral, civic and ethical  
10 education. The handbook shall promote existing curriculum frameworks and  
11 shall encourage school districts to recognize moral, civic and ethical  
12 values within instructional and programmatic educational development  
13 programs for the general purpose of instilling character and ethical  
14 principles in pupils in kindergarten programs and grades one through  
15 twelve.

16           26. Require pupils to recite the following passage from the  
17 declaration of independence for pupils in grades four through six at the  
18 commencement of the first class of the day in the schools, except that a  
19 pupil shall not be required to participate if the pupil or the pupil's  
20 parent or guardian objects:

21                   We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men  
22 are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with  
23 certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty  
24 and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights,  
25 governments are instituted among men, deriving their just  
26 powers from the consent of the governed. . . .

27           27. Adopt rules that provide for certification reciprocity pursuant  
28 to section 15-501.01.

29           28. Adopt rules that provide for the presentation of an honorary  
30 high school diploma to a person who has never obtained a high school  
31 diploma and who meets both of the following requirements:

32                   (a) Currently resides in this state.

33                   (b) Provides documented evidence from the department of veterans'  
34 services that the person enlisted in the armed forces of the United States  
35 and served in World War I, World War II, the Korean conflict or the  
36 Vietnam conflict.

37           29. Cooperate with the Arizona-Mexico commission in the governor's  
38 office and with researchers at universities in this state to collect data  
39 and conduct projects in the United States and Mexico on issues that are  
40 within the scope of the duties of the department of education and that  
41 relate to quality of life, trade and economic development in this state in  
42 a manner that will help the Arizona-Mexico commission to assess and  
43 enhance the economic competitiveness of this state and of the  
44 Arizona-Mexico region.

1           30. Adopt rules to define and provide guidance to schools as to the  
2 activities that would constitute immoral or unprofessional conduct of  
3 certificated persons.

4           31. Adopt guidelines to encourage pupils in grades nine, ten,  
5 eleven and twelve to volunteer for twenty hours of community service  
6 before graduation from high school. A school district that complies with  
7 the guidelines adopted pursuant to this paragraph is not liable for  
8 damages resulting from a pupil's participation in community service unless  
9 the school district is found to have demonstrated wanton or reckless  
10 disregard for the safety of the pupil and other participants in community  
11 service. For the purposes of this paragraph, "community service" may  
12 include service learning. The guidelines shall include the following:

13           (a) A list of the general categories in which community service may  
14 be performed.

15           (b) A description of the methods by which community service will be  
16 monitored.

17           (c) A consideration of risk assessment for community service  
18 projects.

19           (d) Orientation and notification procedures of community service  
20 opportunities for pupils entering grade nine, including the development of  
21 a notification form. The notification form shall be signed by the pupil  
22 and the pupil's parent or guardian, except that a pupil shall not be  
23 required to participate in community service if the parent or guardian  
24 notifies the principal of the pupil's school in writing that the parent or  
25 guardian does not wish the pupil to participate in community service.

26           (e) Procedures for a pupil in grade nine to prepare a written  
27 proposal that outlines the type of community service that the pupil would  
28 like to perform and the goals that the pupil hopes to achieve as a result  
29 of community service. The pupil's written proposal shall be reviewed by a  
30 faculty advisor, a guidance counselor or any other school employee who is  
31 designated as the community service program coordinator for that school.  
32 The pupil may alter the written proposal at any time before performing  
33 community service.

34           (f) Procedures for a faculty advisor, a guidance counselor or any  
35 other school employee who is designated as the community service program  
36 coordinator to evaluate and certify the completion of community service  
37 performed by pupils.

38           32. To facilitate the transfer of military personnel and their  
39 dependents to and from the public schools of this state, pursue, in  
40 cooperation with the Arizona board of regents, reciprocity agreements with  
41 other states concerning the transfer credits for military personnel and  
42 their dependents. A reciprocity agreement entered into pursuant to this  
43 paragraph shall:

44           (a) Address procedures for each of the following:

45           (i) The transfer of student records.

1 (ii) Awarding credit for completed coursework.

2 (iii) Permitting a student to satisfy the graduation requirements  
3 prescribed in section 15-701.01 through the successful performance on  
4 comparable exit-level assessment instruments administered in another  
5 state.

6 (b) Include appropriate criteria developed by the state board of  
7 education and the Arizona board of regents.

8 33. Adopt guidelines that school district governing boards shall  
9 use in identifying pupils who are eligible for gifted programs and in  
10 providing gifted education programs and services. The state board of  
11 education shall adopt any other guidelines and rules that it deems  
12 necessary in order to carry out the purposes of chapter 7, article 4.1 of  
13 this title.

14 34. For each of the alternative textbook formats of human-voiced  
15 audio, large-print and braille, designate alternative media producers to  
16 adapt existing standard print textbooks or to provide specialized  
17 textbooks, or both, for pupils with disabilities in this state. Each  
18 alternative media producer shall be capable of producing alternative  
19 textbooks in all relevant subjects in at least one of the alternative  
20 textbook formats. The board shall post the designated list of alternative  
21 media producers on its website.

22 35. Adopt a list of approved professional development training  
23 providers for use by school districts as provided in section 15-107,  
24 subsection J. The professional development training providers shall meet  
25 the training curriculum requirements determined by the state board of  
26 education in at least the areas of school finance, governance, employment,  
27 staffing, inventory and human resources, internal controls and  
28 procurement.

29 36. Adopt rules to prohibit a person who violates the notification  
30 requirements prescribed in section 15-183, subsection C, paragraph 8 or  
31 section 15-550, subsection C from certification pursuant to this title  
32 until the person is no longer charged or is acquitted of any offenses  
33 listed in section 41-1758.03, subsection B. The state board shall also  
34 adopt rules to prohibit a person who violates the notification  
35 requirements, certification surrender requirements or fingerprint  
36 clearance card surrender requirements prescribed in section 15-183,  
37 subsection C, paragraph 9 or section 15-550, subsection D from  
38 certification pursuant to this title for at least ten years after the date  
39 of the violation.

40 37. Adopt rules for the alternative certification of teachers of  
41 nontraditional foreign languages that allow for the passing of a  
42 nationally accredited test to substitute for the education coursework  
43 required for certification.

1           38. Adopt rules to define competency-based educational pathways for  
2 college and career readiness that may be used by schools. The rules shall  
3 include the following components:

4           (a) The establishment of learning outcomes that will be expected  
5 for students in a particular subject.

6           (b) A process and criteria by which assessments may be identified  
7 or established to determine whether students have reached the desired  
8 competencies in a particular subject.

9           (c) A mechanism to allow pupils in grades seven through twelve who  
10 have demonstrated competency in a subject to immediately obtain credit for  
11 the mastery of that subject. The rules shall include a list of applicable  
12 subjects, including the level of competency required for each subject.

13           39. In consultation with the department of health services, the  
14 department of education, medical professionals, school health  
15 professionals, school administrators and an organization that represents  
16 school nurses in this state, adopt rules that prescribe the following for  
17 school districts and charter schools:

18           (a) Annual training in the administration of auto-injectable  
19 epinephrine for designated medical and nonmedical school personnel. The  
20 annual training prescribed in this subdivision is optional during any  
21 fiscal year in which a school does not stock epinephrine auto-injectors at  
22 the school during that fiscal year.

23           (b) Annual training for all school site personnel on the  
24 recognition of anaphylactic shock symptoms and the procedures to follow  
25 when anaphylactic shock occurs, following the national guidelines of the  
26 American academy of pediatrics. The annual training prescribed in this  
27 subdivision is optional during any fiscal year in which a school does not  
28 stock epinephrine auto-injectors at the school during that fiscal year.

29           (c) Procedures for the administration of epinephrine auto-injectors  
30 in emergency situations.

31           (d) Procedures for annually requesting a standing order for  
32 epinephrine auto-injectors pursuant to section 15-157 from the chief  
33 medical officer of the department of health services, the chief medical  
34 officer of a county health department, a doctor of medicine licensed  
35 pursuant to title 32, chapter 13 or a doctor of osteopathic medicine  
36 licensed pursuant to title 32, chapter 17.

37           (e) Procedures for reporting the use of epinephrine auto-injectors  
38 to the department of health services.

39           40. In consultation with the department of education, medical  
40 professionals, school health professionals, school administrators and an  
41 organization that represents school nurses in this state, adopt rules that  
42 prescribe the following for school districts and charter schools that  
43 elect to administer inhalers:

44           (a) Annual training in the recognition of respiratory distress  
45 symptoms and the procedures to follow when respiratory distress occurs, in

1 accordance with good clinical practice, and the administration of  
2 inhalers, as directed on the prescription protocol, by designated medical  
3 and nonmedical school personnel.

4 (b) Requirements for school districts and charter schools that  
5 elect to administer inhalers to designate at least two employees at each  
6 school to be trained in the recognition of respiratory distress symptoms  
7 and the procedures to follow when respiratory distress occurs, in  
8 accordance with good clinical practice, and at least two employees at each  
9 school to be trained in the administration of inhalers, as directed on the  
10 prescription protocol.

11 (c) Procedures for the administration of inhalers in emergency  
12 situations, as directed on the prescription protocol.

13 (d) Procedures for annually requesting a standing order for  
14 inhalers and spacers or holding chambers pursuant to section 15-158 from  
15 the chief medical officer of a county health department, a physician  
16 licensed pursuant to title 32, chapter 13 or 17 or a nurse practitioner  
17 licensed pursuant to title 32, chapter 15.

18 (e) Procedures for notifying a parent once an inhaler has been  
19 administered.

20 41. Adopt rules for certification that allow substitute teachers  
21 who can demonstrate primary teaching responsibility in a classroom as  
22 defined by the state board of education to use the time spent in that  
23 classroom toward the required capstone experience for standard teaching  
24 certification.

25 42. FOR THE PURPOSES OF SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR CIVICS CELEBRATION DAY  
26 INSTRUCTION UNDER SECTION 15-710.01, DEVELOP A LIST OF RECOMMENDED  
27 RESOURCES RELATING TO CIVICS EDUCATION THAT ALIGN WITH THE ACADEMIC  
28 STANDARDS PRESCRIBED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION IN SOCIAL STUDIES  
29 PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 15-701 AND 15-701.01. THE STATE BOARD SHALL  
30 ESTABLISH A PROCESS THAT ALLOWS PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO RECOMMEND RESOURCES FOR  
31 ADDITION TO THE LIST.

32 B. The state board of education may:

33 1. Contract.

34 2. Sue and be sued.

35 3. Distribute and score the tests prescribed in chapter 7, article  
36 3 of this title.

37 4. Provide for an advisory committee to conduct hearings and  
38 screenings to determine whether grounds exist to impose disciplinary  
39 action against a certificated person, whether grounds exist to reinstate a  
40 revoked or surrendered certificate and whether grounds exist to approve or  
41 deny an initial application for certification or a request for renewal of  
42 a certificate. The board may delegate its responsibility to conduct  
43 hearings and screenings to its advisory committee. Hearings shall be  
44 conducted pursuant to title 41, chapter 6, article 6.

1           5. Proceed with the disposal of any complaint requesting  
2 disciplinary action or with any disciplinary action against a person  
3 holding a certificate as prescribed in subsection A, paragraph 14 of this  
4 section after the suspension or expiration of the certificate or surrender  
5 of the certificate by the holder.

6           6. Assess costs and reasonable attorney fees against a person who  
7 files a frivolous complaint or who files a complaint in bad faith. Costs  
8 assessed pursuant to this paragraph shall not exceed the expenses incurred  
9 by the department of education in the investigation of the complaint.

10          Sec. 3. Title 15, chapter 7, article 1, Arizona Revised Statutes,  
11 is amended by adding section 15-710.01, to read:

12           15-710.01. Sandra Day O'Connor civics celebration day; civics  
13   instruction requirement

14           ON SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR CIVICS CELEBRATION DAY, EACH PUBLIC SCHOOL IN  
15 THIS STATE SHALL DEDICATE THE MAJORITY OF THE SCHOOL DAY TO CIVICS  
16 EDUCATION.

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR MARCH 24, 2020.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE MARCH 24, 2020.